

Food Security Initiative

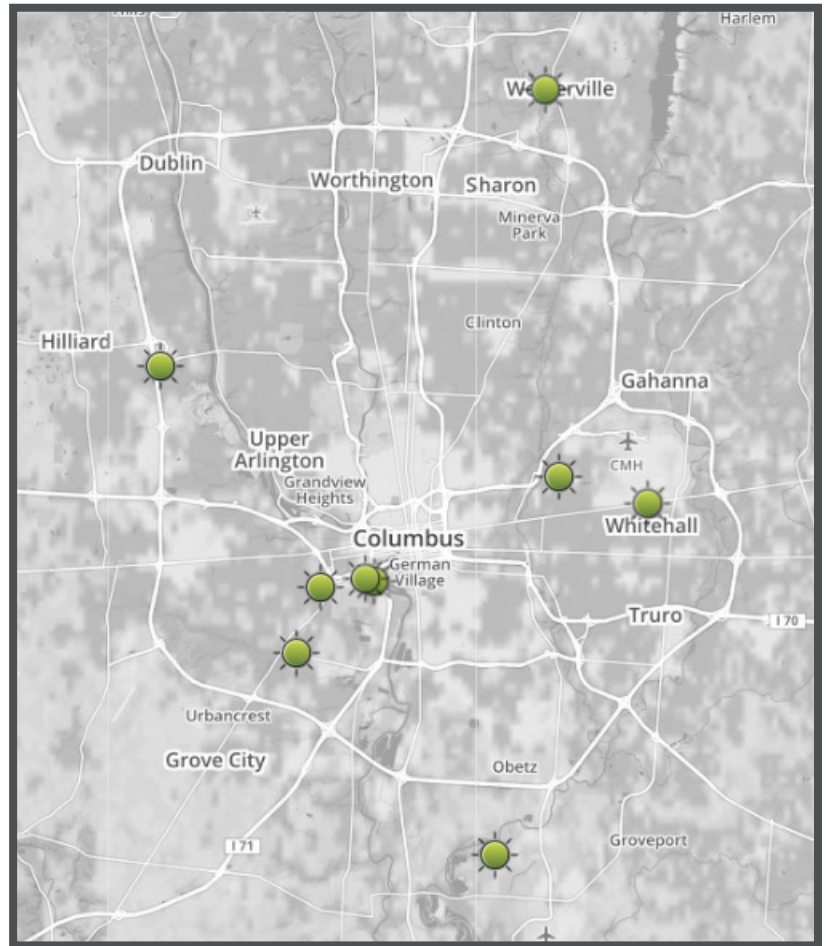


*A \$535,000 COUNTY INVESTMENT OF FEDERAL
FUNDS DURING 2010 TO 2015 PROGRAM YEARS*

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Through an annual \$25,000 Community Development Block Grant allocation with Franklin County, the Franklin Park Conservatory provides community garden grants for low-to-moderate income neighborhoods in Franklin County, outside the city limits of Columbus. Under the scope of this contract, the Franklin Park Conservatory publicizes the garden program, determines the eligibility of applicants, verifies the needs of eligible applicants and communities, grants funds to these eligible organizations for the construction and capital expenses of building new or substantially repairing the community gardens, and performs routine follow-ups, ensuring all awarded gardens are active for a total of (3) years upon execution of the agreement.

Last year, eight gardens received funding. This year, eight more garden grants are going on to fund the following nine gardens: the Upper Arlington Community Garden, The Van Buren Center's Garden of Hope, the Hoover YMCA Learning Garden, the International Harvest Garden, the New Life Peace & Plenty Community Garden, The Otterbein Community Garden, the Rebuilding Together Central Ohio Demonstration Garden, and two LifeCare Alliance Agency Gardens.



SUMMER NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM



Through an annual \$25,000 Community Development Block Grant allocation with Franklin County, Children's Hunger Alliance works with existing summer meal sponsors to increase participation in the summer meal program in underserved areas. The goals for this program include:

- Recruiting new sites and building site capacity by supporting existing meal sponsors,
- Recruiting and placing trained educators and volunteers to deliver enrichment programming,
- Raising community awareness of the need for children's nutritional and educational needs, and, for those families in need, raising awareness about programs available to help meet the nutritional needs of the children in their respective family.

**84,500 MEALS DURING
2015-2016 PROGRAM YEAR**



PROJECT OPEN-HAND COLUMBUS



Through an annual \$35,000 Community Development Block Grant allocation with Franklin County, LifeCare Alliance's Project OpenHand-Columbus provides home-delivered meals, pantry items, nutritional counseling and nutritional supplements to men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS in central Ohio. Activities include:

- Delivering meals
- Stocking LifeCare Alliance's pantry
- Distribution of food, personal care items, and household products from the pantry
- Holding monthly congregate meals and providing nutritional counseling to persons with HIV/AIDS

Specifically, this contract agreement provides 3,551 meals to clients at an average cost of \$7.04 per meal and 483 Food Pantry packets (which include food and personal hygiene items) at an average cost of \$20.70. The program standards are that 3551 meals are provided to clients and that 483 Food Pantry packets are distributed.

BETWEEN 2010 AND 2015, OVER 1,000 INDIVIDUALS HAVE RECEIVED SERVICES!



FRESH FOODS HERE INITIATIVE

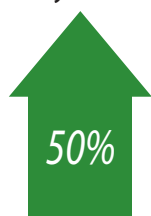


The Fresh Foods Here Initiative, supported by an annual \$40,000 Community Development Block Grant allocation, is a comprehensive approach designed to improve access to healthful, affordable food choices in Columbus area corner stores. The program is a coordinated effort administered by United Way of Central Ohio to increase the availability of healthful foods in low-income, underserved neighborhoods by positioning corner stores as a vehicle towards expanding access through store and site enhancements as well as community engagement, education, and marketing. The initiative's primary program components are:

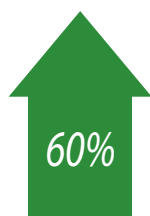
- Store/site improvements
- Improved healthful food availability
- Improved healthful food sales volume
- Improved consumer knowledge and value of healthy nutrition
- Improved consumer patronage

**3 STORES ASSISTED AT
INCEPTION TO 17 BY THE
END OF 2016**

During the 2015-2016 program year, the Fresh Foods Here Initiative expanded its geographic focus from just the East and West sides of Columbus to also include the North and South sides. In doing so, they recruited twelve (12) total stores by the end of the 2015-2016 program year.



***increase in
shoppers***



***increase in
healthy food purchases***





LOCAL FOOD ACTION PLAN

CITY OF COLUMBUS & FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

In 2014, Columbus City Councilmember Priscilla Tyson and Franklin County Commissioner John O’Grady partnered to launch the Columbus – Franklin County Local Food Action Plan, a community effort to create a stronger, more sustainable local food system. Local Matters, a non-profit organization was engaged by the City to ensure robust community participation and feedback in the process.

The Local Food Action Plan will focus on the following issues:

- Improving access to nutritious food, and education about healthy food
- Increasing the role of food in economic development
- Preventing food related waste
- Enhancing communication and coordination among existing food resources and agencies

The development of the Local Food Action Plan is being jointly led by Franklin County Economic Development and Planning, Columbus Public Health and Local Matters. Employees of each of these agencies are responsible for coordinating and communicating the activities of the Local Food Action Plan. This unique partnership between Health, Economic Development, and the nonprofit sector brings great potential for impactful strategies that will have long-term outcomes.

The first draft of the Local Food Action Plan will be available for public review and comments in July, 2016.

For further information and to sign up for updates, please visit the website at <https://www.columbus.gov/publichealth/programs/Local-Food-Plan/Columbus---Franklin-County-Local-Food-Action-Plan/>



John O’Grady
President



Paula Brooks



Marilyn Brown